

**Amendments to the Claims:**

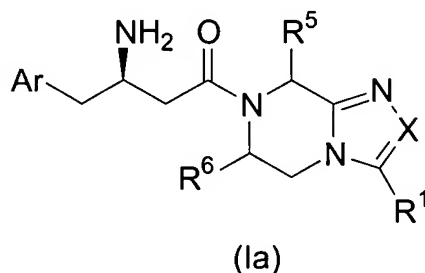
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Cancel Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 14, 17, 22, 23, and 25-41.

**Listing of Claims:**

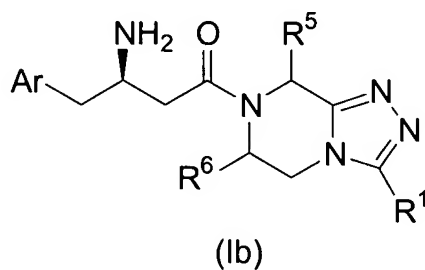
1. (cancelled)

2. (amended) The compound of Claim 1 ~~42~~ of the formula Ia:



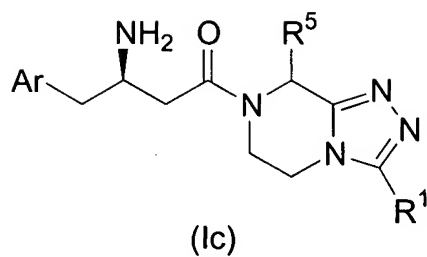
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (original) The compound of Claim 2 of the formula Ib:



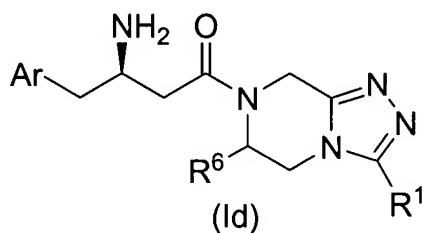
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (original) The compound of Claim 3 of the formula Ic:



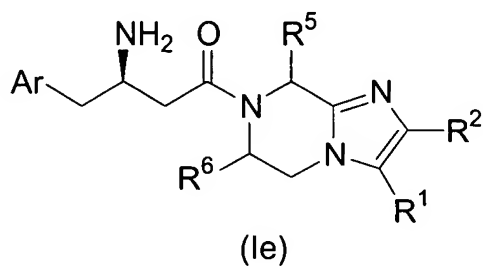
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (original) The compound of Claim 3 of the formula Id



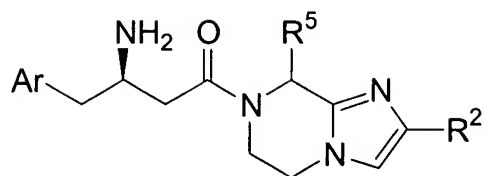
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (original) The compound of Claim 2 of the formula Ie:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (original) The compound of Claim 6 of the formula If:



(If)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (cancelled)

9. (amended) The compound of Claim 8 ~~42~~ wherein Ar is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) phenyl,
- (2) 2-fluorophenyl,
- (3) 3,4-difluorophenyl,
- (4) 2,5-difluorophenyl,
- (5) 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, and
- (6) 2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl.

10-11. (cancelled)

12. (amended) The compound of Claim ~~11~~ ~~42~~ wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) methyl,
- (3) ethyl,
- (4) CF<sub>3</sub>, and
- (5) CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>.

13. (original) The compound of Claim 12 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or CF<sub>3</sub>.

14. (cancelled)

15. (amended) The compound of Claim ~~14~~ 42 wherein  $R^2$  is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) methyl,
- (3) ethyl,
- (4)  $CF_3$ ,
- (5)  $CH_2CF_3$ ,
- (6)  $CF_2CF_3$ ,
- (7) phenyl,
- (8) (4-methoxy)phenyl,
- (9) (4-trifluoromethoxy)phenyl,
- (10) 4-fluorophenyl, and
- (11) 3,4-difluorophenyl.

16. (amended) The compound of Claim 15 wherein  $R^2$  is  $CF_3$  or  $CF_2CF_3$ .

17. (cancelled)

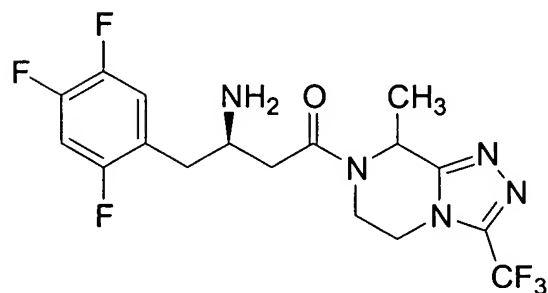
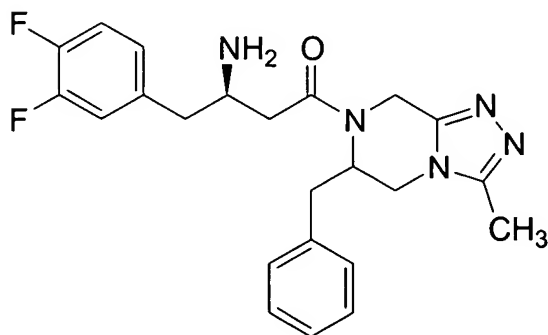
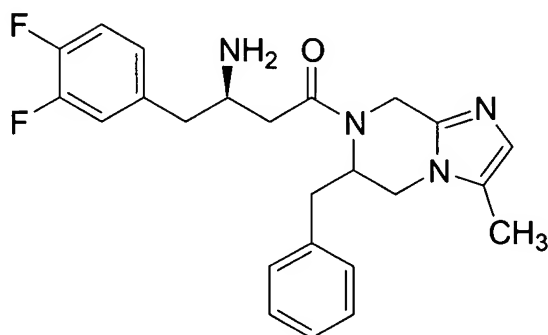
18. (amended) The compound of Claim ~~17~~ 42 wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2)  $CH_3$ ,
- (3)  $CH_2CH_3$ ,
- (4)  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ,
- (5)  $COOCH_3$ ,
- (6)  $CH_2$ -phenyl,
- (7) 3-fluorophenyl, and
- (8) 2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl,

with the proviso that one of  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is other than hydrogen.

19. (original) The compound of Claim 18 wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or CH<sub>3</sub>, with the proviso that one of R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is other than hydrogen.

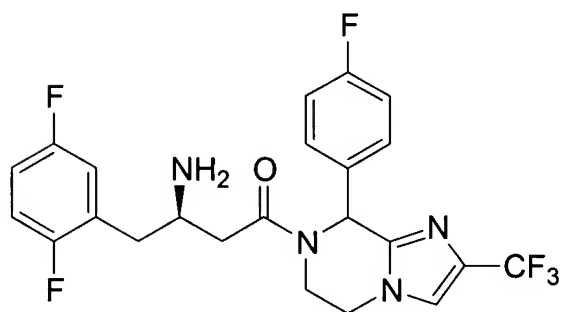
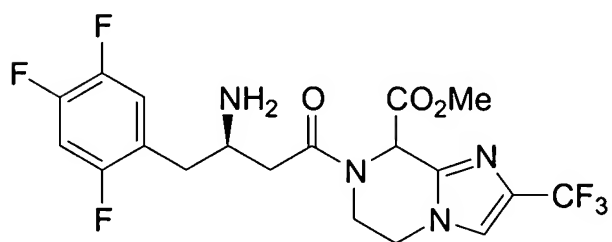
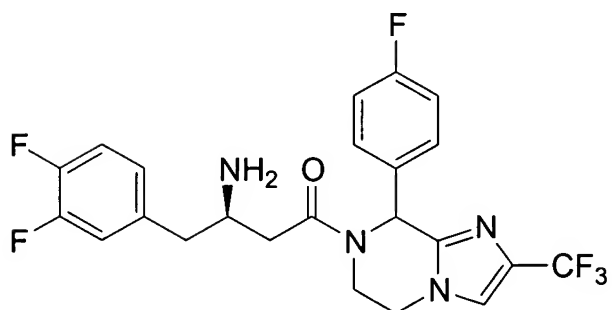
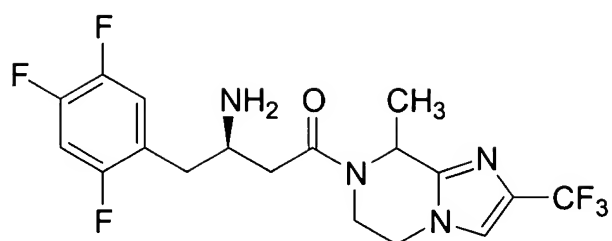
20. (original) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:



Serial No.: 10/508,898

Case No.: 21070YP

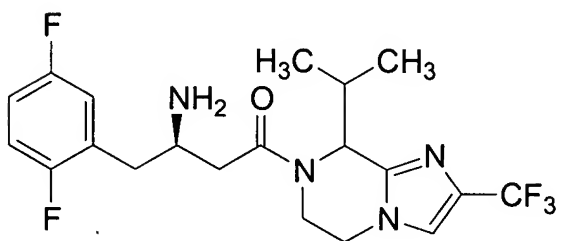
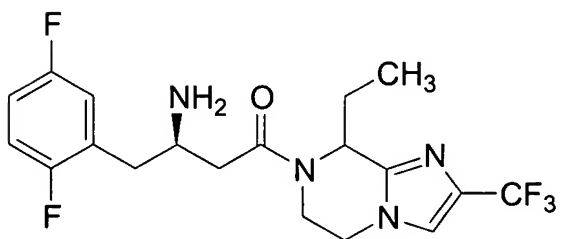
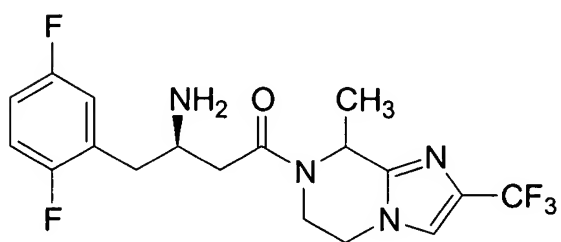
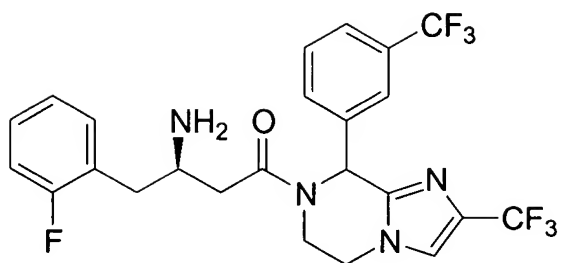
Page No.: 7



Serial No.: 10/508,898

Case No.: 21070YP

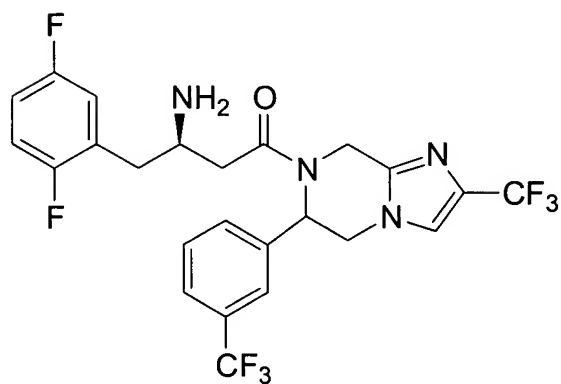
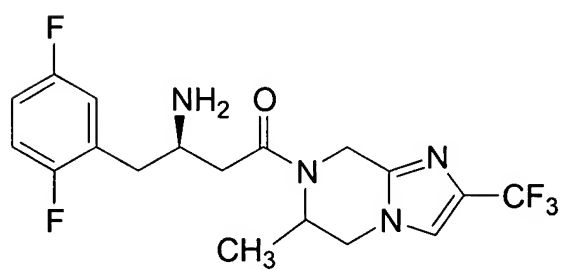
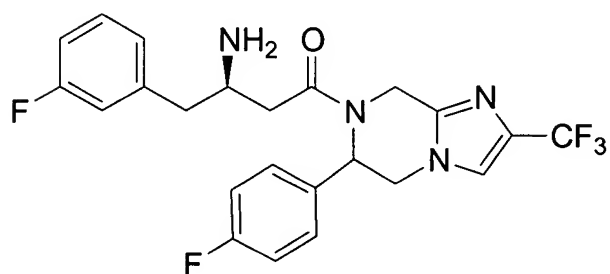
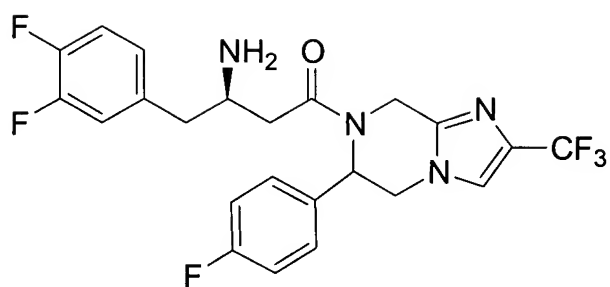
Page No.: 8



Serial No.: 10/508,898

Case No.: 21070YP

Page No.: 9

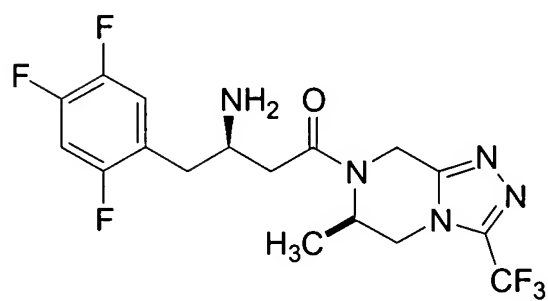
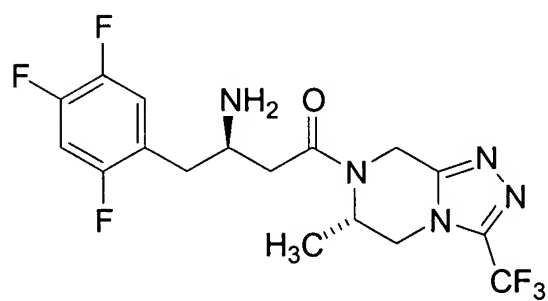
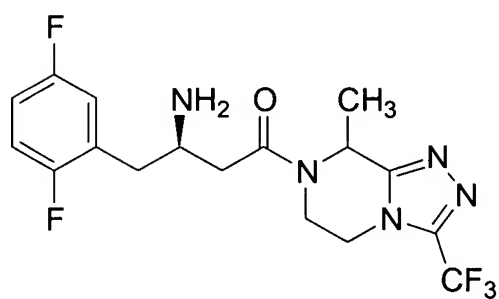
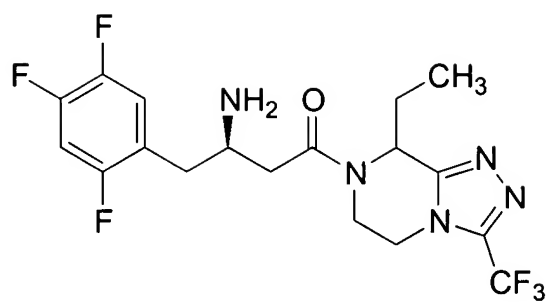


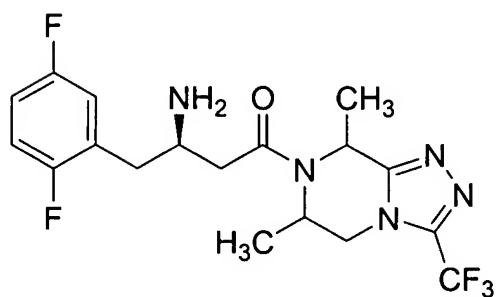
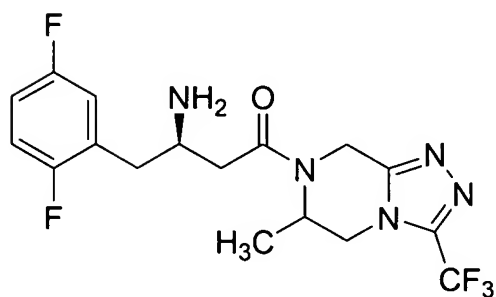
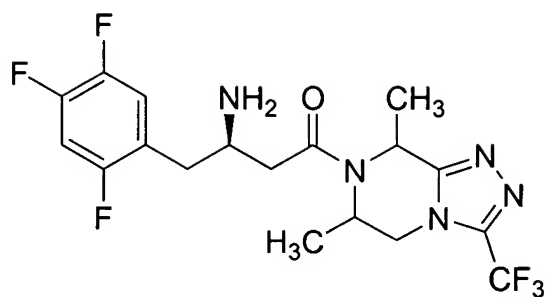


Serial No.: 10/508,898

Case No.: 21070YP

Page No.: 10





or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an inert carrier and a compound of Claim 4 42.

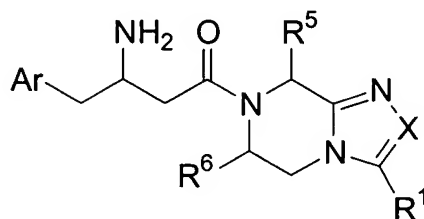
22-23. (cancelled)

24. (amended) A method for treating, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of non-insulin dependent (Type 2) diabetes mellitus in a mammalian patient in need of

such treatment which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim ~~4~~ 42.

25-41. (cancelled)

42. (new) 1. A compound of the formula I:



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

Ar is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents which are independently selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) fluoro,
- (2) chloro, and
- (3) CF<sub>3</sub>;

X is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) N and
- (2) CR<sup>2</sup>;

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen and
- (2) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, which is linear or branched and which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 fluorines;

R<sup>2</sup> is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen and

- (2) C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, which is linear or branched and which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 fluorines; and

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl, which is linear or branched and which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:
  - (a) halogen,
  - (b) phenyl, wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted with 1-5 substituents independently selected from halogen, OH, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, wherein the C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy are linear or branched and optionally substituted with 1-5 halogens, and
- (3) phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, OC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, and halogen, wherein the C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and OC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl are linear or branched and optionally substituted with 1-5 halogens, and
- (4) CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

with the proviso that one of R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is other than hydrogen.